



# WHAT IS A NOBE AND DOES THE VA CERTIFYING OFFICIAL AT MY SCHOOL REALLY NEED IT?

#### What is a NOBE

The Notice of Basic Eligibility (a.k.a. NOBE) is a counseling document that serves to notify a Reserve Component Service Member they have established initial eligibility under the Chapter 1606 (MGIB-SR) GI Bill® program. Service Members need to read over this document as it essentially explains the program and identifies factors that will suspend or terminate eligibility.

### Why does the VA Certifying Official at my school need my NOBE?

Short answer, the VA Certifying Official does not need your NOBE. In many circumstances, the VA Certifying Official is concerned with certifying someone who may not be eligible.

In truth, if the VA Certifying Official certifies someone who isn't eligible (NOBE in hand or not), the VA will actually use data from the Department of Defense (DoD) to determine if the Service Member is eligible for the benefits they have applied to use.

## How does the VA know that I'm eligible without a NOBE?

The Chapter 1606 (MGIB-SR) GI Bill® program is managed by the DoD through the Service Member's Reserve Component. Each component makes appropriate adjustments in eligibility and reports this information electronically to the VA. The VA uses this information to verify eligibility, information from the school to verify the student is attending an approved course or approved training, and the student's application for benefits to initiate the request.

## Certificate of Eligibility (COE)

Once the VA processes the student's application for benefits, the VA will either send a COE or a denial letter. The COE serves as a counseling document between the student and the VA that verifies the award and contains any follow-on steps the student needs to take. Your school does not need the COE either.

#### Trademark

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at <a href="http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill">http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill</a>.

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